

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
(CDVSA)**

**Quarterly Meeting
DEC Building
410 Willoughby Ave, Room 108
Juneau, Alaska 99801
February 18 - 19, 2015**

Committee Members Present

Richard Irwin, Chair
Ron Taylor
Rick Svobodny
Patty Owen
Donna Erickson
Susan Cushing
Ree Sailors
Rachel Gernat – telephonic

Guests:

Susan Christianson

Staff

Lauree Morton
Angela Wells
Heather Noe
Stephen Bower

Minutes Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Richard Irwin, the chair, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m., and roll call was taken.

AGENDA REVIEW

The following changes were made to the agenda:

Wednesday, February 18th

2:40 p.m. Table strategic plan review

2:45 p.m. Add transition report

Thursday, February 19th

2:15 p.m. Moved transition report to 2/18, replace with ANDVSA report

CONFLICT OF INTEREST INQUIRY

Richard Irwin reported that he has been consulting with the reentry programs and OCS, and he will make a declaration should a direct conflict arise.

CHAIR COMMENTS

Richard Irwin congratulated Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Folger on their recent reappointments. Richard shared his thoughts about the session in Juneau. He reminded the Council members that they are leaders with the responsibility to lead well in the state. He quoted Colin Powell: "Leadership is solving problems. The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help, or concluded that you don't care. Either case is a failure of leadership." He encouraged the Council members not think as managers, but to think more specifically as leaders. Leaders change systems, not just manage within the system. He expressed his appreciation to the Council members for serving in their respective capacities.

MINUTES REVIEW

Richard Irwin asked for an update regarding developing a Council brochure noted on page 2, paragraph 2 under chair's comments. Lauree Morton stated that there is social media training scheduled with Susan Christianson during the meeting, and a pamphlet would be available.

Richard Irwin asked for an update of the evaluation programs noted on page 3, paragraph 1. Lauree Morton stated that the pilot started the first week of February, and there will be an evaluation when it is completed. Instead of doing one session for 10 weeks, they are doing two sessions for five weeks, because people felt that it would fit better with the flow of shelter participants. The evaluation is going to be at mid-point of the sessions, the end of June. Laurie stated that the surveys were completed and have been sent out to Michigan to Dr. Graham-Bermann for review. The post surveys will also be sent to Dr. Graham-Bermann, and then in June, CDVSA will be reviewing all the information to make any adjustments necessary for the next session.

Susan Cushing asked for follow up regarding the complete onsite visit of AFS programs referenced on page 3, last paragraph. Lauree Morton stated that Stephen Bower just returned, and a report will be forthcoming.

Susan Cushing referenced page 4, and asked if the staff was going to send out a questionnaire to Council members regarding their representation on the board for the website. Lauree Morton said that is still on the to-do list, and could be available at some point in the meeting.

Susan Cushing referenced page 9, paragraph 2, the press release on the 4th R evaluation, and asked for an update. Lauree Morton reported that it has not happened yet, as there are ongoing discussions on how that's supposed to happen. Susan referenced page 9, paragraph 3, and asked for an update on the toolkit. Richard Irwin stated that it is in process.

Rick Svobodny, asked for an update regarding the BIP regulations referenced on page 3, paragraph 3. Lauree Morton stated that it has been tabled until May.

Rachel Gernat referenced page 17, and asked about the follow up based on recommendations made in executive session. Lauree Morton stated that the meeting did not occur. Rachel asked if there would be time to discuss that at this meeting, and Lauree Morton stated that it was not on the agenda.

Richard Irwin referenced page 19, paragraph 5 regarding Susan Cushing's addendum letter relating to conversations with the new administration's leadership, and he stated the conversations have not happened; however, it is his hope that they will have conversations around that with the Governor on Friday.

Rick Svobodny **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the November meeting as amended. The motion was **SECONDED** by Ron Taylor. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the financial report, which was included in the board packet, and gave an overview of the current status of funding sources. She reported that the expenditures are on target without areas of concern. She noted that most of the balance is in services, which relates to other state departments and contracts needing to bill CDVSA for services. Lauree Morton also reviewed the current status of the CDVSA federal grant expenditures for the period ending January 2015.

Lauree Morton led a review of the STOP update, which was included in the board packet. Lauree Morton stated that with regards to the Council's approved plan to consult with the 228 tribes relating to the Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan, they have been holding the consultations on a monthly basis. So far they have conducted three consultations, and of those three, they've had approximately 12 people participate out of the over 100 people that were invited. The next meeting is scheduled for March. In April CDVSA will open a public notice on the draft Three-Year STOP Implementation Plan to start the public comment period. CDVSA staff intends to incorporate changes to the plan based on the tribal consultations and public comment and have it available for the Council members at the May meeting.

Lauree Morton referenced the Kids Club and Mom's Empowerment Program (KCMEP) update contained in the board packet, and reported that they have programs that are

implementing the project, and programs that are not implementing at this time, but will be serving as control sites.

Sites serving as active sites:

- AWAIC, Anchorage
- SAFV, Sitka
- SPHH, Homer

Sites serving as control sites:

- IAC, Fairbanks
- WISH, Ketchikan

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Victim Service Program reports, which were included in the board packet. She stated that there are very positive activities happening in the state. She encouraged the Council members to review the success stories to see the impact services are having on people's lives. She highlighted the following activities:

- AVV in Valdez reported that they've seen an increase in male victims, which reflects that the outreach is effective.
- AWARE in Juneau reported that Special Agent in Charge, Dierdre Fike, made a presentation honoring Swarupa Toth, AWARE's SART and Regional Legal Services Coordinator. They also reported that Saralyn Tabachnick was notified by the FBI that she would be awarded the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for 2015.
- AWIC in Barrow, along with their partners, held their Light in the Window Campaign for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in November.
- BSWG in Nome highlighted their Talking Circles, which included Inupiaq Values, dealing with trauma, and addressing self-care.
- CFRC in Cordova highlighted their Believe It or Not I Care (BIONIC) Youth Group and the work they are doing. They also highlighted the SART progress being made in Cordova.
- IAC in Fairbanks highlighted their work with the Primary Prevention Partnership. They established 24 signed MOUs from community partner agencies to work on primary violence prevention.
- KWRCC in Kodiak highlighted their Paws for Peace dog walk where they partnered with the local animal shelter to bring awareness to the correlation of animal abuse and domestic violence.
- LSC in Kenai highlighted the Empowering Choice Housing Program (ECHP), and stated that they had five people that were able to get into housing through the ECHP.
- SAFE in Dillingham highlighted that they've changed their emergency shelter in King Salmon to a three-bedroom apartment.
- SAFV in Sitka highlighted that they are working on school-wide adoption of the social-emotional learning model, and their school district is working with SAFV to make that a reality.

- SPHH in Homer highlighted that the Green Dot Homer Violence Prevention Team was recognized by the city manager for activities during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- TWC in Bethel highlighted that they have 38 volunteers with over 303 hours of service.
- USAV in Unalaska highlighted that the day after a presentation at the high school, 23 students came to the USAV shelter for a tour and learned more about the services.

With regards to the emerging programs reports, this was the first time CDVSA has required them to submit reports, and there were mixed results as follows:

- HOPE in Craig is having difficulty with liability insurance and staff interactions. CDVSA staff will be working more closely with this program to provide technical assistance and support.
- UTWC, Upper Tanana made progress working with IAC in Fairbanks to look for ways to have better outreach into the villages surrounding them.
- WAVE in Petersburg is consistently out working in the community trying to find ways to get people involved. WAVE received a mini grant from CDVSA for the program to have trainers on sexual assault response travel to Petersburg to specifically work with healthcare providers to get them trained for forensic exams.

Lauree Morton reviewed the Batterer Intervention Program reports, which were included in the board packet. Lauree Morton stated that there is a growing trend that perpetrators believe they can take online batterer intervention courses through non state-approved programs and that it would equate to completing a face-to-face batterer intervention program, which is not accurate, because there are no approved online batterer intervention programs in the state of Alaska. Lauree Morton has spoken to the Office of the Public Defender regarding this, and has sent out notices to the court system administration and the public defenders listing the approved programs for FY15. They are also working with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to ensure consistent information is being disseminated with regards to approved courses.

Lauree Morton called the Council members' attention to the BIP Outcome Statistics from October 1st through December 31st, 2014, which was included in the board packet, for a review of the statistics for that period of time. She commented that the numbers don't add up, because there are people coming into the programs all the time.

Lauree Morton reviewed the Prison Based Batterer Intervention Program (PBP) reports, which were included in the board packet. Lauree stated that AFS received additional funding this quarter from CDVSA to have an additional program at Goose Creek, and that program is up and running. Lauree reported and that AWARE has added a fourth group for men transitioning to the community from Lemon Creek Correctional Center. Lauree called the members' attention to the PBP statistics for the second quarter for their review.

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Outcome Measures Progress report, which was included in the board packet, and noted that one of the things that she's going to be talking to the Network about is asking them to start thinking about ways to improve the rate of responses for surveys that are done, because it is reported that there were 2,370 people in programs, but there were only 680 surveys completed, which is not a very accurate picture of the help that is being given and received by programs. Susan Cushing asked what the 2,370 consisted of, and Lauree Morton stated that it represents a culmination of the number of participants that were in shelters, the number of participants received non-resident support and advocacy, the number of people that received counseling, and people in the non-residential support groups for all programs that quarter.

After the discussion regarding the program reports, Council members had the following questions/comments:

Q: Dillingham lost funding from BBNA, was that before the mini grant from CDVSA was offered?

A: About the same time, possibly just before.

Q: Is there any indication why HOPE's board has had so much turnover?

A: There are some indications. When Freda Westman goes and meets with the group, it will become clearer, and CDVSA may recommend specific guidelines to help them in their process.

Q: With regards to the Upper Tanana Wellness Court, when they were funded through the grant, did it include monies for the rural outreach, because it looks like under their challenges they indicate that they are still hoping to hire someone and are looking for additional grants to fund a position? Is that an additional position or one CDVSA already funded?

A: An additional position.

Q: Are AFS and other community partners working with the Mat-Su Health Foundation and the Collective Impact Initiative?

A: They have a presence at the table and report on their respective programs. Lauree Morton will ask programs how AFS's community readiness survey fits into that larger area.

Susan Cushing commented that it is interesting that even with all the staff and board turnover presently at HOPE, they were able to raise \$24,000 at their fundraiser, which is to be commended. Susan commented that it was interesting that USAFV services are down, and she'd like to view that as a good thing, but would like to keep an eye on that because it may indicate services not being used.

Richard Irwin noted that he appreciates where the program reports talk about the positive activities happening. He suggested that in the future they ask them to report on their community engagement activities and possibly report numbers for comparisons over time. Lauree Morton stated that they could ask for that information in July when they renew the contracts, but asked Council members to keep in mind that it isn't

generally lack of effort by programs to promote community engagement when looking at that type of information.

Lauree Morton reported the news that Diane Lanuza will be leaving at the end of the month to take an Administrative Officer II position in Health and Social Services. Lauree Morton expressed her appreciation for the work that Diane has done in her position at CDVSA, and stated that she will be missed. They will be looking for someone to fill that position.

Lauree Morton introduced Heather Noe, the new office assistant, who has been doing a great job. Lauree stated that they are very fortunate to have her on staff.

Lauree Morton reported that Ann Rauche is going to be a recipient of the Visionary Voice Award for the National Sexual Violence Resource Center in April, and will be recognized nationally during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Lauree Morton commented that it is very well deserved as she is just phenomenal at what she does, and that it's nice to see that recognition being given to her.

Lauree Morton reported that the victim services RFP is out, and the Council members will be going over to the Baranof to meet with the Network as part of the pre-proposal teleconference. Lauree directed the members' attention to the proposal application and the different handouts and attachments that go with it for their information.

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to the mini grants, they have submitted a federal application to renew Safe Haven's grant in Fairbanks with IAC. Lauree noted that one of the comments that came out of one of the tribal consultations was an inquiry about working with the Council on applying for a rural grant or a joint project. Lauree stated that that is something they will work on this summer and will update the Council at the fall meeting.

Lauree Morton reported the Governor's office Choose Respect Initiative Annual report to the legislature was released, and it takes the legislators through some of the elements of the Choose Respect Initiative and the activities during calendar year 2014. Lauree Morton reviewed the handout, which was available to the board members. The report lists the 170 communities that participated in the Choose Respect March, and it has an attachment of the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey results, and includes the 2015 dashboard.

FY16-17 RFP PRE-PROPOSAL TELECONFERENCE

Lauree Morton introduced the CDVSA council members at the ANDVSA pre-proposal teleconference meeting held at the Baranof.

Stephen Bower, the CDVSA program coordinator, led the meeting with a review of the RFP for the Community Based Victim Services Grant Program.

Stephen Bower highlighted some of the changes in the current RFP as follows:

- Reclassified technical requirements.
- Change in the way the Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) is going to work; if the Council doesn't have adequate information, they can ask the proposer for that clarification.
- Compressed grant assurances to eliminate duplicity.
- Added strategies to improve staff retention.

Stephen Bower reviewed the following areas in the RFP:

- **General information:**
 - Statement of purpose.
 - Granting authority.
 - Funding Council interests.
 - Eligibility.
 - Incurring costs.
 - Notice of intent.
 - Inquiries, those answered within the RFP and those that are not.
 - Regulations.
 - Proposal deadlines.
 - Copies required, one original and six copies.
 - Period of performance, two-year solicitation, FY16 and FY17.
 - Acceptance of application content.
 - Proposal review process.
- **Funding allocation criteria:**
 - The grantee's demonstration that a need for services exists;
 - The grantee's demonstration of its ability to meet service and program obligations;
 - Whether sufficient funds have been appropriated by the legislature and approved by the Governor; and
 - The ability of the grantee and the Council to agree on any adjustments in the payment for service.
 - Other factors may include demographics, overall accessibility to other communities, sustainability of the program, the availability of other services in the region, and other funding source restrictions, requirements and compliance with the Council reporting requirements.
- **Notification of award process:**
 - Notification of Grant Award to grantees whose application is approved contingent upon necessary revisions to be negotiated and availability of funds; or
 - Notification of Disapproval if the Council disapproves the applicant's application.
- **Grant payment schedule**, generally issue advances on a quarterly basis.
- **Appeals procedure**, applicants who wish to appeal have 15 days after receipt of the administrative action or decision to submit a written request for a hearing.
- **Funding source information**, describes the variety of funding sources for programs including:
 - State general funds
 - Family Violence Prevention funds (FVPSA)

- Victims of Crime Act funds (VOCA)
- **Required match**, minimum required match of 15% of total amount of funding requested.
- **Service provision as follows:**
 - Crisis management and intervention services.
 - Prevention strategies and community education/coordination efforts.
- **Solicitation timeline**

○ Issuance of RFP	January 26, 2015
○ Pre-proposal teleconference	February 18, 2015
○ Deadline for Notice of Intent	February 24, 2015
○ Deadline for inquiry	March 9, 2015
○ Proposed postmark deadline	March 24, 2015
○ Proposed hand-delivered deadline	March 24, 2015
○ Proposed PEC meeting	April 23, 2015
○ Council meeting	May 13-14, 2015
○ Application notification	May 15, 2015
○ Appeal deadline	June 1, 2015
○ Project begins	July 1, 2015

Stephen Bower led the group through a review of the submission requirements for completing the application and the instructions for the completion of the application. He highlighted the following requirements:

- Proposal format, typed, 12-point, Times New Roman font and other details.
- Proposal binding/cover, six complete copies, one marked original.
- Application face sheet can be downloaded at www.dps.state.ak.us/cdvsa and must have a DUNS number and be registered at www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1.
- Table of contents is required. Number all pages and refer to them in table of contents, and keep pages single-sided.

Stephen Bower reviewed the scoring sections as follows:

- Abstract (10 points), provides a summary of proposed project.
- Crisis management and intervention (30 points), list and describe services.
- Prevention and education coordination (25 points), a prevention, education, and coordination plan.
- Improve staff retention (5 points), planning and implementation.
- Volunteer program required (not scored).
- Past performance for continuing programs only (15 points).
- Agency management for new applicants only (15 points).
- Budget, (15 points), budget summary and budget details.

Stephen Bower reported that new applicants are required to submit new applicant information which includes:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MOA with existing VSPs ● Articles of Incorporation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By-laws ● Organizational flow chart |
|---|--|

- Letters of support
- Determination of non-profit status if applicable
- Board member information
- Resume and job description of executive director/project coordinator
- Community coordination, description of efforts

A member of the Network commented that they were surprised that the grant application could not be submitted electronically. Stephen Bower stated that there are legal requirements related to electronic submissions, and the Council has a non-secure communication system. He noted that there could also be problems with the transmission of data resulting in incomplete submission of data.

There was a concern with the weight in points given to prevention strategies. Network members commented that if programs were flat funded, they are mandated to concentrate efforts on core services, and unfortunately, prevention strategies would suffer in that effort. Lauree Morton responded that the Council is open to looking at the points and thinking through ways in which to count the points depending on whether it's actually a service. The Council may come out with a clarification on a way to count points that recognizes the fact that not every program is going to do everything.

Stephen Bower encouraged people to contact him via e-mail with any questions or concerns they have regarding the RFP. He stated that if accommodations need to be made to attend meetings, to please contact him with adequate time to make such arrangements.

SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING

Richard Irwin introduced Susan Christianson, who facilitated a media relations workshop for Council members. Susan Christianson outlined media relation techniques to practice as follows:

- Bridging, bringing the conversation back to the direction of your main point.
- Flagging, re-emphasizing the most important point you are trying to communicate.
- Hooking, explaining that you are about to discuss a complex issue with various parts.

Susan Christianson highlighted the following excerpts from "*The Media Training Bible: 101 Things you Absolutely, Positively Need to Know Before Your Next Interview*" by Brad Phillips regarding the basic guidelines for working with the media as follows:

- Know your message points. What are you trying to communicate?
- Prepare for the interview. Do your homework and prepare your answers.
- Rehearse. Practice what you want to say.
- Dress appropriately. Know in advance the nature of the interview.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Stay on message.
- Pause and think before answering. Don't rush to answer a question.

- Understanding social media, know the basics of using digital tools and social networks for communicating with the public.
- Understand what NOT to say: revealing proprietary information, making racists or obscene observations, or being overly self-promotional.
- Be helpful. Share information that will be useful.
- Keep it short. Keep responses short and simple to get your message across.

Susan Christianson reviewed an excerpt regarding the eight questions to ask before every interview as follows:

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|---|--|
| • Who are you? | • What is the format? |
| • Can you tell me about the story you're working on? | • What do you need from me? |
| • Are you approaching this story from any particular perspective? | • Who will be doing the interview? |
| • Who else are you interviewing? | • When are you publishing or airing the story? |

Susan Christianson highlighted another excerpt regarding directing your communication to your audience as follows:

- Visualize a member of your audience.
- Base your interview on the audience's level of knowledge.
- Don't call reporters by name.

Susan Christianson also reviewed excerpts regarding telephone and television interviews, and ten ways to create memorable sound bites.

Susan Christianson and Laurie Morton prepared questions and answers for Council members to practice clarifying their message for media purposes.

TRANSITION REPORT

Lauree Morton directed the Council members' attention to the Transition Report that was prepared to be submitted to the Governor's office shortly after the new administration came into service to give them a general overview of the different projects that CDVSA funds, the different activities, and the ongoing prevention efforts.

Lauree Morton stated that with regards to victim services, the report outlines each of the programs they fund. Included in the victim services program reports are summaries of each of the programs service area, how many staff they have, the number of volunteers, and a recount of the services they provide. Lauree Morton reviewed each of the programs with the Council members. She also reviewed the information regarding projects related to victim services, including the Kids Club Mom's Empowerment Program, Safe Haven's Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program, and Sheppard's Care Forums.

Lauree Morton reviewed the BIP community-based programs, when they started service, and an overview of funding. Lauree Morton reviewed the prison-based programs at Goose Creek, Fairbanks Correctional Facility, and Lemon Creek. The Council members had a brief discussion on Medicaid funded batterer services and how Medicaid reform and expansion could affect BIP programs.

Lauree Morton reviewed the summary of federal projects including the sexual assault services, the grants to encourage arrest, the STOP program, and the Sexual Assault Response Team training. Laurie also reviewed the grant award list and their funding levels for 2014/15. Also included in the report was the research and data collection of the victimization survey, the database and the information that is gathered for the batterers' intervention database and information on the dashboard.

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to prevention activities, the report summarized the various engagement efforts as follows:

- **Male engagement:**
 - Alaska Men Choose Respect
 - Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM)
 - COMPASS
- **Youth engagement:**
 - 4th R
 - Girls on the Run (GOTR)
- **Youth engagement strategies for prevention:**
 - LEAD ON!
 - STAND UP SPEAK UP
 - When I Am an Elder
- **Parent engagement:**
 - Talk Now Talk Often
- **Community engagement:**
 - Community Based Primary Prevention Program Grants
 - Green Dot
 - Prevention Summit
 - Rural Community Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Program Grants
- **Statewide Planning:**
 - Pathways Planning Committee
- **Media strategies:**
 - CDVSA public service announcements

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Richard Irwin opened the floor for council comments. Ree Sailors asked about the CDVSA budget presentation to the legislature. Lauree Morton stated that they plan to present a broad overview of the FY15 budget and FY16 budget, and then run comparisons through the presentation. The information has been broken down into general blocks of projects starting with prevention, since that's where the reduction is

being proposed, and giving information regarding the broad reach that prevention has in the different communities, and then different projects, looking at the actual dollar amounts, and then highlighting some of the programs. They will then move into victim services following the same format, and then moving into BIP programs separating out legal advocacy. And then they plan to go into STOP, because it's a separate funding stream, and then review the capital projects.

Council members had a brief discussion relating to the funding of the capital projects through Rasmuson Grants Deferred Maintenance Project.

Susan Cushing commented regarding Erin's Law. She understood there was some pushback from school district superintendents, and sensing the momentum of Erin's Law in the legislature, she was wondering with the mandatory reporting that teachers are required to do, if CDVSA could tag onto that the Erin's Law module and dovetail that funding to show assistance and direct the way. Lauree Morton stated that there is an electronic module in place on child abuse reporting that the Network, the Council, and the Department of Education developed, so there already is that available online.

RECESS

The Council meeting recessed at 4:07 p.m.

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AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
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DEC Building
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Juneau, Alaska 99801
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Committee Members Present

Richard Irwin, Chair
Ron Taylor
Rick Svobodny
Commissioner Folger
Patty Owen
Donna Erickson
Susan Cushing
Rachel Gernat – telephonic

Guests:

Susie Frenzel
Nikole Nelson
Peggy Brown
Suki Miller

Staff

Lauree Morton
Angie Wells

Minutes Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Thursday, February 19, 2015

CALL TO ORDER – 9:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Prosecutors & Victim Notice Everyday (VINE)

Richard Irwin introduced Susie Frenzel, the Victim Witness Program Coordinator at the Alaska Department of Law, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Victim Information & Notification Everyday project (VINE). She described VINEWatch as a system that notifies victims and witnesses of all court hearings. She described VINELink as a service that is operated by the Department of Corrections to alert victims of changes in custody status of offenders. It's an open portal, which means it can be accessed by the public. A person would register online or call a toll-free number and be able to receive an inmate's current location and release dates.

Susie Frenzel explained that VineWatch is the second component within VINE. VineWatch is linked to the Alaska Court System and managed by the Department of Law. The varieties of court notifications that can be sent out include arraignments, bail and evidentiary hearings, all the way through trial and sentencing. Crime victims, witnesses, law enforcement, crime labs, expert witnesses, and victim advocates can be registered in VINEWatch.

Susie Frenzel stated that it is the Department of Law's obligation to notify victims of all the court proceedings, and this was done previously by the paralegals, and it was a manual process. With VINEWatch, the data is transmitted through the Alaska Court System, and it provides data four times a day. The data includes court case numbers, defendant's name, date, time, and hearing type, court hearing location, and hearing status for criminal cases, not including juvenile cases. Susie described VINEWatch as a closed portal, and it can only be initiated by a victim, witness, or a paralegal located in the DA's office. The registration is only done with the victim's permission, and a PIN is assigned. The notifications are available in six languages, and it only provides notice of court hearings.

Susie Frenzel reviewed what the system looks like by presenting pages from a false case so Council members could see inside the portal. She also showed an example of the e-mail notification the program sends to the registered party.

Susie Frenzel reported that they went live November 24, 2014, and currently they've had over 875 people registered in the system.

COUNCIL COMMENTS/RECESS

Before the Council members recessed, Richard Irwin opened the floor for comments. There was a brief discussion clarifying portions of the RFP process, and the points awarded for prevention.

Richard Irwin recommended scheduling an annual meeting with the Network.

With regards to dates of future meetings of the Council, Lauree Morton recommended a meeting to address funding requests in June or July and a meeting in August to finalize decisions, and then a fall meeting and a spring meeting. After a brief discussion, the Council members agreed upon the following tentative dates:

- July 22 – 23, 2015, Anchorage
- August 19, 2015, Anchorage
- October 7 – 8, 2015, TBA
- February 24 – 25, 2016, Juneau
- May 11 – 12, 2016, TBA

The Council members recessed to attend the CDVSA House Finance Subcommittee meeting at the Capitol.

National Guard Update: Sexual Assault Response

Commissioner Hummel was unable to attend the meeting to update the Council with regards to the National Guard's sexual assault response.

Alaska Legal Services Update

Richard Irwin introduced Nikole Nelson from Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC), who joined the meeting to update the Council members on the activities of ALSC. She distributed a handout that included a brochure and an overview of Alaska Legal Services Corporation.

Nikole Nelson described ALSC as a non-profit law firm that provides free legal assistance to low-income Alaskans statewide. They have 11 offices that serve 169 communities. They have been providing free legal aid to Alaskans in need for 45 years. One of the largest areas that they focus on is representing victims of domestic violence with their civil and legal needs, and that represents about 30 percent of their caseload statewide. They address needs that include stabilizing families and trying to get the resources they need to end the violence in their lives, which includes maintaining their housing; getting custody orders, orders of protection, and sometimes getting medical care; and making sure children are involved in school and get the counseling they need. She described the firm as comprehensive and holistic in serving low-income Alaskans. Each year they serve about 500 victims of domestic violence and their families, which amounts to about 1,500 total Alaskans, which makes ALSC the largest provider of civil/legal aid services to victims of domestic violence in the state. ALSC works hand in hand with the Network's pro bono program, and also shelters, to make sure that they are meeting the huge need for legal aid.

Nikole Nelson reported that one of the challenges is the volume of Alaskans in need of legal services far exceeds the ability to provide the services. For every one family that they are able to assist, they turn one away, not because their cases lack merit, not because they don't have critical legal needs, but because there simply is not the resources to assist them, which is particularly heartbreaking, because they know they can make a difference, because legal aid is a proven intervention that works for victims of domestic violence in ending the cycle of domestic violence. Nikole noted that in 2012, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority commissioned a study of the work that ALSC does on an annual basis, and it found that for every dollar invested in the program, ALSC returns \$5 to the state through drawing down federal benefits: Medicaid, Social Security, and veteran's benefits. ALSC saves \$2.6 million in costs avoided to state and local communities through their representation of victims of domestic violence,

and another \$600,000 in preventing homelessness, which translates to a \$17.8 million economic benefit to the State of Alaska. The study also found that for every \$100,000 that's invested in the program, they can serve another 182 families. Nikole noted that other savings associated with the study is that ALSC services help to make sure that the court system works more efficiently, and also the social benefits of ending domestic violence.

Nikole Nelson stated that ALSC is very under-funded. Nikole described Senate Bill 49, amending the Civil Legal Services Fund, which has been introduced by Senator McGuire. SB 49 seeks to take 25 percent of the court system's filing fees and would allow those funds to be allocated by the legislature and appropriated into the Civil Legal Services Fund, which then could be appropriated to providers of civil/legal aid. Nikole noted that because the bill would require an appropriation both into the fund and out of the fund each year at the legislature's discretion, it's a zero-budget bill. Nikole asked the Council for their support of SB 49 and opened the floor to questions from the Council members. Council members had the following questions/comments:

Q: Where are the appropriated funds generated from?

A: The general funds.

Q: How did ALSC start, who started it?

A: It started as a project out of the War on Poverty. RurALCAP was the organization that birthed ALSC in 1967. As a spinoff of RurALCAP, they have had a series of executive directors, and have had VISTA volunteers, AmeriCorps attorneys, and have grown over the last 45 years. ALSC attorneys are paid far below the market rate, and so the fact that ALSC can recruit attorneys speaks to the mission and work that they are doing.

Q: What is the staff at ALSC?

A: Currently they have 30 attorneys and staff of 45 overall that includes administration, office managers, and paralegals.

Q: How do you prioritize cases?

A: In each of the 11 offices, the priorities are set by the local community each year, and they use a triage list to screen cases.

Q: Where are your offices located?

A: Bethel, Dillingham, Palmer, Kenai, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow, Juneau, and Ketchikan. In each rural office, there is some measure of support from local partnerships.

Q: How does ALSC differ from other states?

A: Alaska is unique in that they have one statewide legal aid program. Most states have many more. They are also unique in their mission to locate offices in rural Alaska and provide rural service delivery.

Q: How much coordination goes between the Network legal office and ALSC?

A: ALSC works hand in hand with the Network's pro bono program in a variety of ways.

Q: Has the Network's pro bono legal services changed the way ALSC works?

- A: Essentially it has not changed ALSC, but it has brought in more resources to serve victims of domestic violence, which means that ALSC isn't the only law firm assisting that population.

Donna Erickson commented that she appreciates the work ALSC does. She shared a story that as a safe home representative in a rural village, she had a repeat client, and through the BSWG in Nome, she learned about ALSC, who eventually saved her client's life by moving her out of the situation she was in to a different village where she had relatives. Donna remarked that if ALSC had not stepped in, she thinks it would have had a bad ending.

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA)

Richard Irwin introduced Peggy Brown, the executive director of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), who joined the Council meeting to give the members an update on the activities the Network is involved in.

Peggy Brown reported that members of the Network were invited to dine with the Governor. Some program directors know the Governor, and the others are looking forward to meeting him.

Peggy Brown reported that they have been watching the legislative hearings and have been very sympathetic with the department budget cuts. The Network is particularly attentive to not only their own budget within CDVSA, but Public Safety and Corrections and other partners of the Network, as those are people in the field doing the work. Many of the programs are concerned with the changes occurring at local jails and electronic monitoring, although the Network hasn't taken a position on issues without knowing the results of the budget cuts.

Peggy Brown reported that funding is foremost on the minds of the Network. They have seven programs that are being funded through housing assistance. The ECHP program, the money that goes to private landlords, legal services program, and prevention funding all seems to be in jeopardy, which causes grave concerns for the Network.

Peggy Brown reported that the bright spot in all of the activities concerns the deferred maintenance project, the capital funds they received last year. Foraker Group sent their consultants out to all of the shelter programs, and there were reports that some programs needed brand new shelters. Unfortunately, no new construction was one of the parameters of the funding. The report will be prioritized with regards to health, life, and safety-related issues being priority. The Network has encouraged the programs to look for other funding sources for smaller maintenance issues through funders like Rasmusen's Tier 1 Grant, Wells Fargo Foundation, Mat-Su Health Foundation, and an additional foundation based in Pennsylvania, the Weinberg Foundation, which is interested in participating in Alaska. There have also been discussions about how to perform general maintenance, because a lot of the shelter programs don't have people

that are helping them maintain the shelters. Susan Cushing asked Peggy Brown, with regards to deferred maintenance, which shelters needed the most help. Peggy Brown stated that the two shelters that were recommended to be replaced were Emmonak and Bering Sea Women's Group.

Peggy Brown reported that the legal services pro bono program has been in place since 1999. Peggy stated that they have a new attorney, and she is someone who ALSC is helping to get a waiver for so she can practice in Alaska. Peggy noted that the pro bono program has been very busy.

Peggy Brown reported that the Network is still involved in doing a lot of prevention work. They have had an increase of people accessing their online course through the University. Peggy stated that the course is now open to anyone interested in the training, and they have seen not only member programs accessing it, but behavioral health providers, tribal providers, OCS staff, child custody investigators, and guardians ad litem.

Peggy Brown reported that the Network is very supportive of Erin's Law, and they are looking to see how to have sexual abuse prevention in the schools and looking for ways the Network can help school districts support it, even as an unfunded mandate. Rick Svobodny asked what the cost to implement Erin's Law would be. Peggy Brown indicated that is unknown at this point, but Senator Gardner's aides are working on making those projections. Rick Svobodny recommended that the Council suggest to the Commissioner that completion of required training could be a part of teacher's certification or recertification.

Peggy Brown reported that members of the Network are meeting with their legislators and talking about funding. Peggy commented that everybody knows that there's going to be budget cuts, and Network members have said that if there are major cuts, probably the first thing to go is prevention, while at the same time they are trying to think of ways they can still do it with no money.

Council Comments/Assignments

Susan Cushing noted that the Alaska Legal Services was seeking support from the Council for SB 49, and she wondered exactly what type of support. Lauree Morton stated that in the past, Council staff has talked to people about it and answered some technical questions, so basically that level of support.

Susan Cushing commented that with regards to Erin's Law, the teachers end up taking care of the children they identify having problems at home, and then through networking and word of mouth, the people in the community eventually keep an eye on those kids. Susan noted that teachers may be hesitant to support a more stringent enforcement of mandatory reporting if the district superintendents are pushing back because of lack of funding. Lauree Morton commented that the NEA is supportive of Erin's Law, and the NEA testified last year and submitted written testimony.

Lauree Morton asked for two Council members who would be willing to serve on the Proposal Evaluation Committee. The PEC will be meeting in April to look at all the regular victim service grant applications and batterer intervention program applications and score them to be able to provide a list of funding recommendations to the full Council in May. Rachel Gernat and Donna Erickson volunteered, and Patty Owen volunteered to be on the list as a backup.

Rachel Gernat stated that she was able to log on and watch most of the CDVSA presentation to the House Finance Subcommittee and commended Lauree Morton for being so well spoken in answering the myriad of questions. She commented that Lauree Morton is a wonderful advocate, and she was very proud to watch Laurie speaking in front of the subcommittee, bringing the message of what the CDVSA is doing while trying to tactfully argue as to why CDVSA should continue to be funded.

Lauree Morton commented that they will try to reschedule a meeting with Commissioner Hummel for a future meeting.

Lauree Morton reminded the Council members that the next meeting is scheduled for May 13th – 14th, 2015 in Cordova, and the summer meeting is scheduled for July 22nd and 23rd, 2015 in Anchorage. Susan Cushing advised the chair that she will not be attending the meeting in May.

Adjournment

Richard Irwin adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

Minutes Approved: June 9, 2015, P.D.

INDEX OF ACRONYMS

AAVP	Anchorage Alliance for Violence Prevention
AFS	Family Services - Palmer
AHFC	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
AJP	Alaska Justice Project
ANDVSA	Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
APD	Anchorage Police Department
AST	Alaska State Troopers
AVV	Advocates for Victims of Violence - Valdez
AWAIC	Abused Women's Aid in Crisis - Anchorage
AWARE	Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies - Juneau
AWIC	Arctic Women in Crisis - Barrow
BIP	Batterer Intervention Program
BSWG	Bering Sea Women's Group - Nome
CBIM	Coaching Boys Into Men
CDVSA	Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
CFRC	Cordova Family Resource Center - Cordova
CUBS	Childhood Understanding Behaviors Study
DBH	Division of Behavioral Health
DHSS	Department of Health & Human Services
DOC	Department of Corrections
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOL	Department of Law
FVPSA	Family Violence Prevention Services Act
GOTR	Girls on the Run
GTEA	Grants to Encourage Arrest
HOPE	Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies
HUD	Housing & Urban Development
IAC	Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living - Fairbanks
KWRCC	Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center - Kodiak
LSC	Lee Shore Center – Kenai
MFCC	Maniilaq Family Crisis Center - Kotzebue
MOA/MOU	Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding
OCS	Office of Children's Services
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OVW	Office of Violence Against Women
PRAMS	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
PREA	Prison Rape Elimination Act
PEC	Program Evaluation Committee
RFP	Request for proposals
SAFE	Safe and Fear Free Environment - Dillingham

SAFV	Sitkans Against Family Violence - Sitka
SAP	Sexual Assault Prevention
SART	Sexual Assault Response Training
SASP	Sexual Assault Services Program
SCS	Seaview Community Services - Seward
SPHH	South Peninsula Haven House - Homer
STAR	Standing Together Against Rape - Anchorage
STOP	Services Training Officers Prosecutors
SVSEP	Supervised Visitation Safe Exchange Program
TA	Technical assistance
TWC	Tundra Women's Coalition - Bethel
USAFV	Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence - Unalaska
VCCB	Violent Crimes Compensation Board
VJF	Victims for Justice – Anchorage
VOCA	Victims of Crime Act
WAVE	Working Against Violence for Everyone
WISH	Women in Safe Homes - Ketchikan
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey